



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/964,100

Filing Date: 09/26/2001

Applicant: Ikuo Ozawa, et al.

Group Art Unit: 3753

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Examiner: Ljiljana V. Ceric

MAY 10 2004

Title: FRONT END STRUCTURE

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Attorney Docket: 4041K-000036

Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 6, 2004, please consider the following.

The Examiner considers the January 12, 2004 response by the Applicants as being not fully responsive because Applicants did not provide a list of all similar and/or related pending applications and recent patents as requested by the Examiner. Applicants apologize for this oversight.

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement which cites additional documents that Applicants are aware of and that relate to the front end structure of a

motor vehicle. These documents are in addition to the following documents cited by the Examiner.

<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
4,287,961	09/1981	Steiger
4,651,816	03/1987	Struss, et al.
4,821,828	04/1989	Schwerzler, et al.
4,914,929	04/1990	Shimazaki
4,938,303	07/1990	Schaal, et al.
4,979,584	12/1990	Charles
6,155,335	12/2000	Acre, et al.
6,189,958	02/2001	Guyomard, et al.
6,196,624	03/2001	Bierjon, et al.
6,260,609	07/2001	Takahashi
6,347,823	02/2002	Ozawa, et al.
6,386,273	05/2002	Hateley
6,450,276	09/2002	Latcau
6,470,961	10/2002	Case
6,502,653	01/2003	Balzer, et al.
6,508,506	01/2003	Ozawa, et al.
6,516,906	02/2003	Sasano, et al.
6,540,037	04/2003	Sasano, et al.
6,540,284	04/2003	Miyata
6,578,650	06/2003	Ozawa, et al.

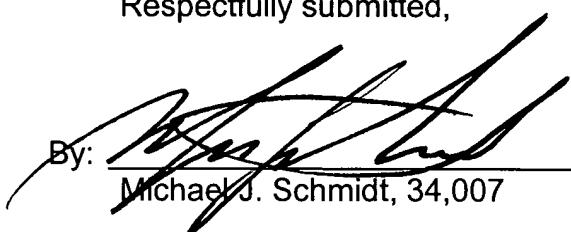
Applicants request entry of the Information Disclosure Statement and the Response filed January 12, 2004.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Michael J. Schmidt, 34,007

Dated: May 3, 2004

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
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Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

MJS/pmg

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 180)

Complete if Known

Application Number 09/964,100

Filing Date 09/26/2001

First Named Inventor Ikuo Ozawa, et al.

Examiner Name Ljiljana V. Ciric

Art Unit 3753

Attorney Docket No. 4041K-000036 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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MAY 10 2004

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

 Check Credit card Money Other None
Order
 Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number 08-0750

Deposit Account Name Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

 Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1)

(\$ 0)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

		Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Total Claims		-20 **	= 0	X 0 = 0
Independent Claims		-3 **	= 0	X 0 = 0
Multiple Dependent			X 0 = 0	

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2)

(\$ 0)

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity

Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive – unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive – unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	180
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3)

(\$ 180)

SUBMITTED BY

Complete (if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	Michael J. Schmidt	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,007	Telephone	(248) 641-1600
Signature					

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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